

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

714/744 P STREET
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814



(916) 323-0503

October 27, 1987
CMSP Letter 87-11

All CMSP County Welfare Directors

SUBJECT: CMSP CATASTROPHIC CASES

At the request of the Small County Advisory Committee (SCAC), CMSP staff conducted a study of the CMSP Catastrophic Cases for the period January 1983 through September 1985. The enclosed report represents the findings of that study, and it is being forwarded to you for your information and sharing with your CMSP staff.

Based on the study findings, the SCAC requests that your county's CMSP eligibility worker(s) be advised of the characteristics of the catastrophic cases studied, and that each worker be given a copy of the attached desk reference for detecting catastrophic cases. This information may assist them in identifying catastrophic cases early in the eligibility process, which then prompts a thorough investigation of those cases for Medi-Cal eligibility or other third party liability. We recognize that the county CMSP staff play a vital role as the catalyst which enables CMSP to recover medical expenditures, and we are available to provide assistance to you upon request.

The CMSP staff will continue to identify catastrophic cases and monitor medical expenditure recoveries related to those cases. You will be informed of the catastrophic cases specific to your county on a semi-annual basis, and you may be requested to provide CMSP staff with information from the case files.

If you have any question concerning the enclosed report or the catastrophic cases in your county, please contact Linda McFarland of the CMSP Unit at (916) 324-4203.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Jim Martinez'.

Jim Martinez, Chief
County Medical Services Program
County Health Services Branch

Enclosures

SCAC Board
SCAC Members

CMSP ELIGIBILITY WORKER DESK REFERENCE

EVERYTHING YOU WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT DETECTING A CMSP CATASTROPHIC CASE, BUT DIDN'T KNOW WHO TO ASK

The application interview and the monthly status report analysis conducted by YOU, the county CMSP eligibility worker (EW), is the point of earliest detection of a possible CMSP catastrophic case, and the point at which Medi-Cal linkage or third party liability can be identified. To aid you in this detection and reporting process, you are requested to closely investigate CMSP cases when:

1. the applicant cannot apply in person;
2. the applicant is hospitalized at the time of application or as indicated on status report;
3. the applicant is male, age 30-39 years or female, age 60-64 years, and has a medical diagnosis of injury and poisoning, diseases of the circulatory system or diseases of the digestive system; and/or,
4. the applicant has injuries from an accident which involves potential third party liability.

- You should thoroughly document the case file to aid in any future investigation of the case by including such information as: reason for hospitalization; date of accident/injury; name of hospital; name and address of other persons involved in accident; and any other pertinent information relevant to the applicant's medical needs.
- If there is any reason to suspect that a disability may be involved, you should encourage the applicant to file a Medi-Cal disability application along with the CMSP application.
- When the applicant's need for medical care is due to an accident or injury, the case file must be documented to specify any third party liability and notice must be given to the Department as specified in the CMSP Eligibility Manual, Section 0771.

Questions concerning catastrophic cases should be directed to the State Department of Health Services, CMSP Unit, at (916) 324-4203.

DID YOU REMEMBER THE CMSP-1153 TO DETERMINE MEDI-CAL LINKAGE?